

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 02881 132052 Z

72

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-12 DPW-01 ADP-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

AID-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /139 W  
----- 065902

P R 131105 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3597

DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL UDORN

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

SECDEF

USDAO SAIGON

DIRNSA FT GG MEADE MD

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC HAWAII

COMUSMACTHAI

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CDR USSAG NKP

DEPCDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

DODSPECREP BANGKOK

DOD SPECREP NKP

CHSPECATS BANGKOK

7 ACCS KORAT

56 SOW NKP

432 TRW UDORN

CDR JCRC NKP

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 02881 132052 Z

ARMA/ AIRA VTN LAOS  
ARMA/ AIRA SVKT LAOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2881

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; 13 AF ADVON, 432 TRW AND 56 SOW FOR DO/ DI;  
MACTHAI FOR J2 AND PAO

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA  
SUBJECT: LAO SITUATION REPORT - APRIL 13

REF: VIENTIANE 2841

BEGIN SUMMARY: MILITARY - ACTIVITY REMAINED LOW WITH  
ONE MAJOR SHELLING IN THE THA VIENG AREA AND 5 MINOR  
INCIDENTS. RLAF FLEW 14 T-28 SORTIES NEAR THA VIENG  
AND 4 AC-47 SORTIES NORTHEAST OF KHONG SEDONE. ONE  
T-28 WAS LOST IN THE MEKONG SOUTH OF PAKSE DUE TO PILOT  
ERROR.

POLITICAL - NEGATIVE.

1. SECTION 1 - CEASEFIRE OBSERVANCE

A. MR I: NO GROUND OR AIR ACTION REPORTED.

B. MR II: FRIENDLY FORCES HAVE PULLED BACK FROM  
SOME POSITIONS NEAR THA VIENG BUT STILL HOLD OTHERS;  
THEY ARE NOW ATTEMPTING TO REGROUP IN THA VIENG AREA.  
NO FURTHER TANK GUNFIRE HAS BEEN REPORTED; THE SITUATION  
IS STILL FLUID BUT THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IS LOWER. IN  
THE DAY'S ONLY MAJOR INCIDENT, FRIENDLY POSITIONS IN THE  
IMMEDIATE THA VIENG AREA ( UG 3105) RECEIVED SPORADIC DAY-  
LONG SHELLING INCLUDING 122 MM HOWITZER FIRE. FRIENDLIES  
LOST ESTIMATED 10 KIA PER INITIAL REPORT. ALSO ON APRIL  
12 FRIENDLY POSITION 15 KM NORTHEAST OF THA VIENG RECEIVED  
MINOR MORTAR ATTACK ( NO CASUALTIES). A MINOR CLASH APRIL  
11 IN THE SAME AREA RESULTED IN 2 ENEMY KIA. A PRELIMINARY  
REPORT INDICATES THREE SMALL OUTPOSTS 16-18 KM NORTHWEST  
OF BOUAM LONG WERE LOST TO ENEMY ATTACK EARLY MORNING  
APRIL 13. RLAF FLEW 14 T-28 SORTIES IN THE THA VIENG  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 VIENTI 02881 132052 Z

AREA IN SUPPORT OF TROOPS IN CONTACT AND AGAINST ENEMY

FIRING POSITIONS (5 PROBABLY KBA, ONE RECOILESS RIFLE SILENCED, 3 SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS).

C. MR III: NO GROUND OR AIR ACTION REPORTED. FOUR-BATTALION FORCE NOW ON- LINE IN MUONG PHALANE AREA IS BEING RELIEVED BY FRESH FORCE OF SAME SIZE IN SAME POSITIONS. MENTALLY TROUBLED LAO FAC TOOK O-1 LIGHT OBSERVATION PLANE FROM SAVANNAKHET MORNING 10 APRIL, FLEW EAST OVER HO CHI MINH TRAIL AND SOUTH VIETNAM, AND DITCHED IN WATER OFF DANANG. HE WAS RESCUED BY NEARBY BOAT AND TURNED OVER TO VNAF FOR EVENTUAL REPATRIATION.

D. MR IV: ONLY ACTIONS WERE TWO MINOR TEAM CLASHES 26-27 KM NORTHEAST OF KHONG SEDONE ON 11 APRIL (FOUR ENEMY KIA, SIX WIA). RLAF FLEW FOUR AC-47 GUNSHIP SORTIES DURING NIGHT 11-12 APRIL, ALL IN SUPPORT OF FOREGOING ACTIONS. T-28 ON UNARMED ORIENTATION/ TRAINING FLIGHT CRASHED INTO MEKONG RIVER SOUTH OF PAKSE ON 12 APRIL DUE TO PILOT ERROR; PILOT WAS KILLED.

E. MR V: ONLY ACTION WAS CLASH OF OPPOSING PATROLS APPROX SEVEN KM EAST OF SALA PHOU KHOUN JUNCTION ON 12 APRIL (NO CASUALTIES). ONE PL SOLDIER WAS CAPTURED/ RALLIED AND HE REVEALED THAT ENEMY HAS FOUR 122 MM HOWITZERS AND FOUR TANKS SLIGHTLY FARTHER EAST OF SALA PHOU KHOUN. RLAF FLEW NO SORTIES.

F. COCFV: RLG DEFMIN ANNOUNCED TWO ADDITIONAL ENEMY CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, BRINGING TOTAL TO 371 AS OF MORNING 10 APRIL. (COMMENT: OUR COUNT OF GROUND CONTACTS INITIATED BY BOTH SIDES SHOWS 92 MAJOR AND 502 MINOR INCIDENTS THROUGH 9 APRIL. END COMMENT)

2. SECTION II - POLITICAL SITUATION - NEGATIVE.  
GODLEY

CONFIDENTIAL

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973VIENTI02881  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** VIENTIANE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730443/aaaaipgd.tel  
**Line Count:** 154  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 VIENTIANE 2841  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980120  
**Subject:** LAO SITUATION REPORT - APRIL 13  
**TAGS:** MOPS, PFOR, PINS, PINT, LA  
**To:** CIA  
DIA  
EA  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BANGKOK  
DOD  
JEC PARIS  
MULTIPLE

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005